

### **ABSTRACT**

Described is a distributed lock processing technique that may be used to coordinate access to globally accessed resource between endpoints using the connecting message fabric. Processors in a data storage system communicate using the message switch of the message fabric. Each processor is an endpoint within a data storage system. Each endpoint, prior to requesting a lock, dynamically determines a current lock owner of the lock to be requested in accordance with a determination of which endpoints are available as lock owners at the current time. The lock request is issued to the current lock owner with a requested time period used by the lock owner to determine an expiration time. The lock expires automatically at the expiration time even if the lock holder becomes unavailable. If the current lock owner becomes unavailable, a new lock owner is determined prior to the next request for that lock.